EE TAP Information Systems Technology Project
Advisory Board Meeting
January 30, 1998
USGS National Wetlands Research Center, Lafayette, LA

9:00   Introductions

9:10   Brief overview of Information Systems Technology Project
         http://www.nwrc.gov/coastl.coastl.html

9:20   EnergyFiles (http://www.doe.gov/Energyfiles) and the DOE Information Bridge
         (currently password protected)
         Dennis Traylor, DOE OSSTI

9:45-- noon   Discussion on GIS data access for the EE-IC

         1) What data should be available at all times

         2) What data sets should be acquired/purchased

         3) What categories of data should be online.

         4) What data should be accessed only by metadata.

         5) What format is best for searching metadata.

         6) What levels of access should be provided.

EEIRC User Meeting
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Objective: Identify potential users of Information Center on Coastal Louisiana and their concerns.

[A recorder captured the following concepts during the user meeting.]

I.   Users
- A.   Oil and Industry
  1. Pipelines
  2. Oil field
  3. Plant construction
  4. Surveying
  5. Oil spill response
  6. Regional transport and environmental standards, e.g., problems from other area, (mercury, air quality)
- B.   Interagency
  1. U.S. Department of Agriculture
  2. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
  3. Other Federal agencies
  4. State agencies
  5. Librarians
  6. Department of Energy
- C.   Private Sector
  1. Consultants/contractors
  2. Third party software developers
  3. Law firms
  4. Medical applications
  5. Laborers
  6. Agricultural corporations
  7. Economic developers/real estate
  8. Any member of public with a personal computer
  9. Financial institutions
- D.   Education
  1. Teachers
  2. Students

II.   Concerns
- A.   Industry
  1. Accurate maps
  2. Resolution of maps
  3. Currency of maps
  4. Cost of Landsat
  5. Various time of data can cause problems as technology changes

6. Does not think oil and gas industry will use data or gather new data--industry contractors will use

B. Interagency
1. Structure to allow interfacing to take place
2. How to analyze the provided data?
3. Vocabulary of data-what will it be? [possible solution-core vocabulary for search engine]
4. What will search engine be?
C. Private Sector
1. Quality control
2. Tracking of manipulation of data [solution-Dr. R-multi media data base management-methods for resolving conflicts]
3. Subject matter experts needed as well as computer experts
4. Need to know "pedigree" of data-where it comes from
5. Usability and whether free or not
D. Education
1. Training
2. Development
3. Availability of more technology in schools
4. Useful but will take work
III. Suggestions
A. Capabilities - 2 levels
1. Outside users-search on your own
2. "In-house" customized help/librarian researches
B. Push Technology - Agent technology could facilitate
C. Customize Work Centered Technology
D. Subscription Service
IV. Other Issues
A. Proprietary data base and access to them
B. Technical barriers, e.g., different GIS standards
1. "Translator development" - useful appl/end product of res. electronic conversion multi platform capability-e.g., like Oracle
2. Need to evaluate translation quality (Dr. R)
3. Technical support
4. Subject matter experts
5. Vital - analyze raw data to product useful products
6. Need contact person; how data was manipulated
7. How process is structured
   a. metadata
   b. dictionary
   c. housing data
   d. sizes 16 bit etc.
   e. scope of project
   f. boundary of project

g. scaleability

C. Difference between Regional Applications Center (RAC) and information center (e.g., customers pay for queries; interface)
D. International users; often difficult to I.D. users
E. Will we use special collections from library? Will it be digitized?
F Put in questionnaire before users get data to gather user information.